

Senate Bill 349

By: Senators Thomas of the 54th, Thomas of the 2nd, Butler of the 55th, Seay of the 34th and Moody of the 56th

**AS PASSED SENATE**

**A BILL TO BE ENTITLED**

**AN ACT**

1 To amend Part 3 of Article 16 of Chapter 2 of Title 20 of the Official Code of Georgia  
2 Annotated, relating to health of students in elementary and secondary education, so as to  
3 require that parents and guardians of students are provided with information about  
4 meningococcal meningitis and its associated vaccine or vaccines at the beginning of every  
5 school year; to provide for the development of sample educational materials by the  
6 Department of Human Resources; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws;  
7 and for other purposes.

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9 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:**

10 **SECTION 1.**

11 Part 3 of Article 16 of Chapter 2 of Title 20 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated,  
12 relating to health of students in elementary and secondary education, is amended by inserting  
13 a new Code section to be designated Code Section 20-2-775 to read as follows:

14 "20-2-775.

15 (a) Local boards of education shall ensure that each of their schools provide parents and  
16 guardians with information about meningococcal meningitis and its associated vaccine or  
17 vaccines at the beginning of every school year. This information shall include the causes  
18 and symptoms of meningococcal meningitis, how it is spread, and the places where parents  
19 and guardians may obtain additional information and vaccinations for their children. The  
20 Department of Education shall ensure that each state chartered special school provides such  
21 information to the parents and guardians of its students. The Department of Education shall  
22 ensure that similar information is made available to private schools and home schools for  
23 distribution to the parents and guardians of their students.

24 (b) The Department of Human Resources shall develop and make available sample  
25 educational materials that can be provided to parents and guardians. The Department of

1 Human Resources shall provide these materials to the Department of Education and local  
2 boards of education. These materials may be provided electronically."

3 **SECTION 2.**

4 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.